

Message Text

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ORIGIN SP-03

INFO OCT-01 CCO-00 RSC-01 SS-20 SSO-00 ISO-00 EA-11 /036 R

DRAFTED BY S/P:RPALMER

APPROVED BY S/S-S:REWOODS

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O 302236Z SEP 74 ZFF4

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE

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TOSEC 82

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: USUN

SUBJECT: SECRETARY'S OPENING REMARKS AND TOAST TO SEATO

MINISTERIAL

FOR S/S - DOUG KINNEY

1. BEGIN REMARKS: (DRAFTED RPALMER, S/P)

MR. SECRETARY GENERAL, DISTINGUISHED DELEGATES, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN:

ON BEHALF OF THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES, I WELCOME YOU TO THIS NATION AND TO THIS 19TH MEETING OF THE SEATO COUNCIL OF MINISTERS.

WE MEET AT A TIME OF UNPRECEDENTED CHALLENGE TO MAN'S VISION OF HIS COMMON DESTINY. A WORLD TORN BY CHRONIC POLITICAL CONFLICTS AND NOW THREATENED WITH GLOBAL ECONOMIC CONFLICT AND DISASTER COULD REVERSE THE GENERAL ADVANCE OF RECENT YEARS TOWARDS GREATER PEACE AND PROSPERITY. THE EFFORTS OF EVERY NATION, EVERY REGION AND EVERY ORGANIZATION ARE

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REQUIRED TO PREVENT THE PROBLEMS WE CONFRONT FROM OVER-

WHELMING OUR PEOPLES' ASPIRATIONS. INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION -- IN ALL ITS FORMS -- HAS NEVER BEEN MORE ESSENTIAL.

TWENTY YEARS AGO THE NATIONS GATHERED IN THIS ROOM COMMITTED THEMSELVES TO COOPERATION, CONSULTATION AND MUTUAL

CONCERN IN THE MANILA PACT. TODAY PRESIDENT FORD HAS REQUESTED ME TO REAFFIRM AMERICA'S COMMITMENT TO THOSE PRINCIPLES AND TO THE ORGANIZATION WHICH UNITES US.

WHILE OUR COMMITMENT REMAINS CONSTANT, THE NATURE OF OUR COOPERATION IS CHANGING TO MEET THE REQUIREMENTS OF ANOTHER ERA. TWO DECADES AGO FRIENDS AND ALLIES WERE RECOVERING FROM THE RAVAGES OF WAR, NEW NATIONS WERE EXPERIENCING THE TURMOIL AND UNCERTAINTY OF INDEPENDENCE, AND WE FACED A MONOLITHIC COMMUNIST WORLD. TODAY DEVELOPING AND DEVELOPED NATIONS ALIKE HAVE GROWN STRONGER AND MORE SECURE, AND WE HAVE ENGAGED THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA AND THE SOVIET UNION IN THE PROCESS OF NEGOTIATION AND ACCOMMODATION. THE TRAGIC EXCEPTION IN SOUTHEAST ASIA HAS BEEN INDOCHINA, BUT EVEN THERE THE HOPE FOR A PEACEFUL SETTLEMENT REMAINS.

WE MUST NOT ALLOW THE FRAGILE STRUCTURE OF INTERNATIONAL STABILITY AND THE ECONOMIC PROGRESS SO LABORIOUSLY ACHIEVED OVER THESE TWO DECADES TO BE DESTROYED. EACH OF US CAN AND MUST CONTRIBUTE.

AMERICA WILL DO ITS SHARE.

-- WE WILL PURSUE OUR EFFORTS TO IMPROVE RELATIONS WITH THE COMMUNIST POWERS, BUT NEVER AT THE EXPENSES OF OUR FRIENDS AND ALLIES. RELATIONSHIPS OF MUTUAL RESTRAINT AND RESPECT BETWEEN THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA AND THE UNITED STATES AND BETWEEN THE SOVIET UNION AND THE UNITED STATES ARE FUNDAMENTAL TO WORLD PEACE. AS TENSIONS AMONG THE MAJOR POWERS HAVE EASED, THE SECURITY AND FREEDOM OF ACTION OF SMALLER NATIONS HAVE INCREASED.

-- WE WILL PURSUE OUR EFFORTS TO DEVELOP A COOPERATIVE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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APPROACH TO THE GLOBAL ECONOMIC CRISIS. AS WE MOVE AWAY FROM A WORLD DIVIDED BETWEEN EAST AND WEST, WE MUST NOT ALLOW NEW DIVISIONS TO EMERGE BETWEEN PRODUCERS AND CONSUMERS, OR RICH AND POOR. ATTEMPTS TO ACHIEVE NARROW NATIONAL OR BLOC ADVANTAGE CAN ONLY ENGULF ALL NATIONS IN ECONOMIC DECLINE.

-- AND WE WILL STRIVE TO MAINTAIN OUR ECONOMIC AND SECURITY

ASSISTANCE TO THOSE WHO STILL REQUIRE IT. THE UNITED STATES RECOGNIZES THE OBLIGATIONS WHICH ITS STRENGTH, HISTORY AND VALUES ENTAIL.

THERE ARE, OF COURSE, REALISTIC LIMITS TO WHAT THE UNITED STATES CAN BE EXPECTED TO ACCOMPLISH ON ITS OWN. DEVELOPMENT AND SECURITY PRIMARILY DEPEND ON THE EFFORTS OF THE NATIONS DIRECTLY CONCERNED. AND NO ONE NATION CAN ENSURE GLOBAL COOPERATION ON GLOBAL PROBLEMS.

BUT THE SPECIAL MEANING OF OUR RELATIONSHIP IS THAT BY ACTING IN CONCERT, BY CONTRIBUTING WHAT EACH OF US CAN CONTRIBUTE THERE ARE NO LIMITS TO WHAT WE CAN ACHIEVE. AS WE ENTER A PERIOD OF DECISION ABOUT THE INTERNATIONAL

ECONOMY LET US DEMONSTRATE THAT NATIONS AT ALL STAGES OF DEVELOPMENT CAN COOPERATE. AND AS WE ENTER WHAT ALL OF US HOPE WILL PROVE TO BE A LESS DANGEROUS CHAPTER IN THE HISTORY OF SOUTHEAST ASIA, LET EACH OF US SUPPORT AN ALLIANCE WHICH REMAINS ESSENTIAL TO THE FABRIC OF PEACE.

I WISH YOU WELL IN YOUR DELIBERATIONS AND REGRET THAT I AM UNABLE TO PARTICIPATE IN THEM. I LOOK FORWARD TO TALKING WITH YOU INDIVIDUALLY AT OUR LUNCHEON TODAY. AND I LEAVE YOU IN THE CAPABLE HANDS OF MY PRINCIPAL DEPUTY, BOB INGERSOLL.

END OPENING REMARKS.

2. BEGIN TOAST:

MR. SECRETARY-GENERAL, DISTINGUISHED DELEGATES AND FRIENDS:

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-- WINSTON CHURCHILL WAS ONCE ASKED THE QUALIFICATIONS OF

A POLITICIAN. WITHOUT HESITATION HE ANSWERED: QUOTE IT IS THE ABILITY TO FORETELL WHAT WILL HAPPEN TOMORROW, NEXT MONTH, NEXT YEAR -- AND TO EXPLAIN AFTERWARDS WHY IT DID NOT HAPPEN. END QUOTE. THE PARADOX OF THE PAST YEAR IS THAT WHAT WE KNEW WOULD HAPPEN WE DID NOT DARE TO FORETELL.

-- BUT THE LEADERS OF OUR NATIONS TWENTY YEARS AGO DID FORESEE THE NEED FOR OUR UNITY AND ACTED UPON THEIR CONVICTION. THE SENSE OF COMMON PURPOSE AND THE READINESS TO DEFEND OUR RIGHTS WHICH WE HAVE DEMONSTRATED FOR TWO DECADES ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR THE NEW ERA OF DETENTE NOW BLOSSOMING IN ASIA.

-- NOW WE MUST DEMONSTRATE THE SAME COURAGE AND CLEAR VISION AS OUR PREDECESSORS. PRESIDENT KENNEDY ONCE SAID, QUOTE GENUINE PEACE MUST BE THE PRODUCT OF MANY NATIONS, MANY ACTS. IT MUST BE DYNAMIC, NOT STATIC, CHANGING TO MEET THE NEEDS OF EACH NEW GENERATION. END QUOTE.

-- I AM PLEASED TO NOTE THAT SEATO IS SHOWING THAT RESILIENCE AND FLEXIBILITY SO ESSENTIAL TO THE MODERN WORLD. OUR ATTEMPT TO RESHAPE AND REDIRECT THE ROLE AND ACTIVITIES OF SEATO -- AS DECIDED BY THE 18TH COUNCIL OF MINISTERS -- HAS SUCCEEDED. WE COMMEND SECRETARY-GENERAL SUNTHORN FOR MAKING THIS TRANSITION SMOOTH AND ORDERLY.

-- THE CHALLENGES STILL BEFORE US -- TO OUR SECURITY, TO OUR ECONOMIES, TO OUR PEOPLES' ASPIRATIONS FOR THE FUTURE -- REQUIRE THE QUALITIES OF STATESMANSHIP TO AN

UNPRECEDENTED DEGREE. IN THE DECADES AHEAD WE CANNOT AIM AT UNITY AS AN END IN ITSELF; IT MUST EMERGE FROM COMMON CONCEPTIONS, A RENEWED SENSE OF COMMON DESTINY.

-- LET US RISE TO THE CHALLENGES OF THE FUTURE, AS OUR PREDECESSORS ROSE TO THE CHALLENGES OF THE PAST. MAY I PROPOSE A TOAST TO THE SUCCESS, PAST AND FUTURE, OF OUR LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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MUTUAL ENDEAVORS.

END TOAST. INGERSOLL

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: ALLIANCE, SPEECHES, MINISTERIAL MEETINGS, TOSEC 82
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 30 SEP 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: CollinP0
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974STATE215546
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: RPALMER
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740275-0965
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t1974091/aaaaaasf.tel
Line Count: 204
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN SP
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 4
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: CollinP0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 02 JUL 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <02 JUL 2002 by boyleja>; APPROVED <06 MAR 2003 by CollinP0>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SECRETARY'S OPENING REMARKS AND TOAST TO SEATO MINISTERIAL
TAGS: PFOR, US, XC, SEATO, (KISSINGER, HENRY A)
To: USUN NEW YORK
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005